

CROCKETT-WISE DUEL

The Death of One of the Principals Recalls an Interesting Encounter.

GENERAL MAHONE'S EDIT

The Last Time That John S. Wise Practiced the Code of the Duelling Field.

The recent death in Wytheville of Mr. John S. Crockett, recalls the duel which he and Capt. John S. Wise, now a resident of New York city, but then of Richmond, Va., fought near Bangs or Christiansburg station on the 25th day of July, 1882.

If it is not this was the last duel fought in Virginia, and in the memorable Democratic Readjuster campaign in the early eighties, for it has been said that after the Crockett-Wise meeting, the late Gen. William Mahone issued an edict to his Readjuster lieutenants to engage in no more duels with the Funder. In those days duels were quite common in Virginia, but the Crockett-Wise meeting was the only one ever fought in the section of the state. It was not the first time but was the last that the Hon. Mr. Wise faced a foe at ten paces on the duelling field. As will be recalled the political contests, especially upon the hustings in Virginia in those campaigns, were of the most belligerent nature, frequently terminating in personal encounters which were often finally settled "on the field of honor."

CAUSE OF DUEL

The unpleasantness which terminated in the duel between Mr. Crockett and Mr. Wise grew out of a friendly conversation between them in the presence of some mutual friends in a room at the old Crockett Tavern on Main Street in Wytheville. Capt. Wise was then canvassing this section of the State for Congressman-at-large, the late Hon. John E. Massie being his opponent. Mr. Wise was running as a Readjuster Democrat, and Mr. Massie as a Readjuster Democrat and Mr. Wise, it will be remembered, won. The conversation referred to was afterwards repeated by Mr. Crockett. It involved the moral as well as the political obligation in the settlement of the then pending and all absorbing question of paying the State debt, and Mr. Wise claimed that he had been misquoted by Mr. Crockett.

A short while afterwards Mr. Wise's appointments called him to Marion to speak, where he met Mr. Crockett, and after an effort at explanation they came to blows, or rather Mr. Wise struck Mr. Crockett, and bystanders interfered, preventing Crockett from returning the assault. They were both arrested, taken before a magistrate and fined. Not being satisfied with the outcome of the personal encounter, Mr. Wise, Mr. Crockett returned to Wytheville and sent a challenge to Mr. Wise. The challenge was written by the late Gen. William Terry, of Wytheville, but could not be delivered for some days, Mr. Wise being engaged in canvassing what was then the "back country" of the 9th district.

Wise, Lee, Scott and Buchanan. Mr. Stuart Crockett was Mr. Crockett's second. He met Capt. Wise at Abington where the challenge was delivered. Capt. Wise accepted it through his second, the late Judge George W. Ward, of that place.

THE CARTEL.
Judge Ward drew up the "cartel" and Bangs or Christiansburg depot was selected as the place of meeting. This was on the 25th of July, and the next day the 26th was the time designated. Mr. Crockett selected Dr. R. E. Moore, of Wytheville, as his surgeon and Mr. Wise selected the late Dr. Lewis Wheat, of Richmond, who was telegraphed to be at Christiansburg the next morning. All of the parties, with the exception of Dr. Wheat, went down to Christiansburg on the same train. A report got out in Wytheville of the pending duel and Crockett fearing that he would be arrested rode through the mountains at night to Martinsburg, a distance of over twenty miles, and took the train at that place. The place where the duel occurred was three quarters of a mile from Bangs on the Blacksburg-Yellow Sulphur road. It was on the right of the road, on a beautiful plateau near a place of woods. Mr. Wise having the choice of weapons selected duelling pistols.

FACE TO FACE.
At the time, Judge Ward won the selection of position, and Mr. Stuart Crockett gave the word. The latter stepped off the distance, ten paces. It was a cool, breezy July morning, so common in this mountainous section, and as the sun was kissing the highest peak of the Alleghenies the principals took their positions and at "2" both fired simultaneously and missed. Mr. Crockett shooting low and Mr. Wise high.

The pistols were reloaded and Mr. Crockett in taking his second shot fired it, the ball going "across the line of fire" high in the air. The pistol was again reloaded, and at the word, Mr. Crockett fired, missing again, but Capt. Wise's pistol failed to discharge—why it has never been explained.

Two reasons have been assigned, one that the ball was not driven home, the other that Crockett had offered to give Capt. Wise "another chance." Mr. Crockett said that they were satisfied and all parties left the field.

TO ESCAPE ARREST.

Mr. Crockett and his friends to escape arrest, boarded a freight train at Bangs, went to Salem, spent the day, returning to Wytheville that night. Capt. Wise filed an appointment to speak at Christiansburg that day, after his speech, the duel jury which was in session, indicted him, but nothing ever came of the indictment for the want of evidence. In referring to the indictment afterwards, Capt. Wise said "I hope the speech did not produce that result."

Capt. Wise in a recent letter to the writer, written at his request, in speaking of the duel said:
"After that, without a cloud of controversy on the whole horizon, and realizing the anguish I had caused my wife, and the irreparable wrong I would have done my children if I had let her hear me and fatherless, I publicly announced that I would fight no more duels.
I know that I did right. Leaving the moral view out altogether, I did the sensible thing, the just thing in view of my domestic responsibilities. But it was a hard thing to say, and a harder thing to keep my resolve. There have been times when I would have given much to be free from the pledge, given in private with even more solemnity than in public. Say what we will, there are times when fighting is mighty satisfactory; and there have been times when certain cowards, who were never

anything but evil to me in my fighting days, have turned their vituperation loose upon me, with assurance of impunity, when I regretted bitterly this resolution. No doubt it was all for the best.

END OF DUELING.

I believe this was as you say, about the end of duelling in Virginia, and I had no instrumentality in breaking it up maybe the good Lord will credit me with it against the long column on the other side.
"I never saw Mr. Crockett again, long ago forgave him any injustice he may have done me, and charged it to the folly of politics which besets us all at times, and hope that his life was happy, his death peaceful and this his future is assured."
Twenty-two years have nearly passed

since the duel and many have been the changes. Three of the six who participated in it have passed to their reward in the great beyond.

I refer to Mr. Crockett, Judge George Ward and Dr. Lewis Wheat. Capt. Wise lives in New York; Mr. Stuart Crockett in Sioux City, Iowa, and Dr. R. E. Moore in Wytheville.

Pardon Strongly Opposed.

Annie Whaley, the Norfolk woman, who was given twelve months for unlawfully beating her fifteen-year-old daughter, is applying to Governor Montague for pardon.
The pardon is strongly opposed by Commonwealth's Attorney J. G. Tilton, who has sent the Governor a photo, showing the marks of the lash on the back of the young girl.

Tragle's Sale Continues

WE'RE too busy to write long ads. We've been hustling every minute to supply the wants of the wise buyers. Our great sale has been a remarkably successful one. We've decided to continue it, and so for another week we will let our "wee little price facts" shout for us. Have you been wise? Have you taken advantage of the opportunity to save money? Better form a new habit.

Medicine Department.	
50c Laxative Pills, 100 in bottle.	31c
15c Belladonna Plasters	71c
15c PBRUNA	58c
25c Pils Cure for Consumption.	15c
15c Pills for the Hypophosphates.	90c
10c Best 2-grain Quinine Pills.	3c
25c Brandreth Pills	12c
25c Frayser Liment	17c
15c McELREE WINE OF CARDUI	61c
10c Harlem Oil	4c
25c FLETCHER'S CASTORIA	22c
7c Beef, Wine and Iron	37c
10c BROMO SALTZET	5c
25c Bromo Laxative Quinine	13c
50c Babok, for chills	36c
25c Eagle Condensed Milk	13c
10c Tragle's Headache Tablets	41c
(no cure no pay)	41c
25c HARTSHORN'S BRAIN FOOD	10c
15c Weyth's Beef, Wine and Iron	58c
25c STUART'S DYSPEPSIA TABLETS	34c
15c PINKHAM COMPOUND	63c
25c Black Draught	15c
10c Malena Salve	48c
50c Grove Chill Tonic	28c
10c Rheumacide	67c
15c MOFFER'S FRIEND	69c
15c Ozonulium	66c
25c Seditz Powder, ten sets in box, per box	14c
25c Munyon's Remedies, full line each	14c

Medicine Department.	
25c Simmon's Liver Regulator	14c
15c McGUIR'S Orange Blossoms	64c
75c Hall's Catarrh Cure	40c
25c Atwood's Bitters	17c
25c WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP	16c
15c WARNER'S SAFE CURE	67c
25c Bottle White Pine Cough Syrup	14c
Tragle's Forty Little Liver Pills, best for all liver troubles, regular 25c per bottle	65c
25c Tut's Pills	16c
50c Doan's Kidney Pills	37c
50c CALIFORNIA SYRUP OF FIGS	33c
50c Scott's Emulsion	35c
25c Pierce's Pellets	14c
15c PIERCE'S FAVORITE PRESCRIPTION	62c
15c LAMBERT'S LISTERINE	62c
50c Kimer's Swamp Root	39c
25c Red Cross Kidney Plaster	14c
25c Warner's 3-grain Lithia Tablets	17c
10c Celery Caffeine	9c
10c Liquazone	30c
15c WAMPOL'S TASTELESS COD LIVER OIL	50c
25c Foutz's Cattle Powder	11c
15c TO-N-TA	60c
15c S. S. S.	15c
Toilet Goods Department.	
25c Heavy Hard Rubber 8-inch Combs	17c
15c Heavy Hard Rubber 7-inch Combs	9c
25c Rubifoam	17c

Medicine Department.	
25c Meade and Baker's Mouth Wash	17c
15c Hooper's Hair Restorer, the best and most pleasant hair grower made	50c
25c Mennen's Talcum Powder	11c
25c Tragle's Carbolle Mouth Wash, money refunded if not the best on the market; one bottle to a customer	10c
50c Parker's Hair Balsam	37c
25c Pomade, for the hair, highly perfumed	84c
25c Palmer's Violet Cream, makes the skin soft as velvet	11c
15c Cold Cream	10c
25c Sozodont	10c
25c Palmer's Violet Talcum	11c
25c Mennen's Violet Talcum	11c
25c 2-ounce Vaseline Petroleum Jelly, per bottle	24c
25c Mennen's Violet Talcum Powder	11c
25c Lyon's Tooth Powder	14c
15c Ayer's Hair Vigor	63c
25c Camphor Ice, with Glycerine	8c
15c Gentlemen's Barber Combs	9c
25c Hay's Hair Health	37c

Perfume Department.	
25c Tragle's Violets of Virginia, most lasting perfume, per ounce	27c
50c Wordworth's Blue Lilies, per ounce	37c
15c Roger and Gallet Vera Violet, per ounce	55c

Soap Department.	
50c Imported 3-pound bar Green Castle Soap	19c
25c Fucker's Tar Soap	15c
25c Pure Palm Soap, per cake	1c
25c Roger and Gallet Soap all odors	10c
25c CUTICURA SOAP	15c
10c Cosmo Buttermilk Soap	54c
10c Craddock's Blue Soap	6c
15c Munyon's Witch Hazel Soap	9c
25c Williams's Shaving Stick	17c
15c Peach Blossom Soap, three cakes in box, per box	7c

Brush Department.	
15c Tooth Brushes, four rows, imported	71c
25c 3-in. Back Good Bristle Hair Brushes, one to each customer	16c
10c Nail Brushes	14c
25c Nail Brushes	17c

Rubber Goods Department.	
15c Pure Rubber 2-quart Hot Water Bag	41c
25c Female Bulb Syringe	21c
15c 2-quart Fountain Syringe, the pure rubber, three pipes (only one to each customer)	39c
50c Rubber Sponges	20c

Coffee and Tea Department.	
25c Gray's Mocha and Java Coffee—a regular 25c coffee; makes a delicious cup; only one pound to each customer	19c
50c Gray's Mixed Breakfast Tea, a regular 50c tea, 1/2 pound	17c

Household Department.	
10c Whitmore's Shoe Polish	54c
25c Razor Straps	15c
10c 4-ounce bottle Machine Oil	19c
75c Bird Gravel	4c
50c Nursing Bottles	10c
25c Coleman Mustard	10c
50c Very Best Double Distilled Witch Hazel, only one quart to each customer (bring bottle)	10c
25c Best Quality 4-ounce Lemon, Vanilla, Peppermint, Nitro, Peppermint or Jamaica Ginger	12c
10c Royal Glue	74c
15c Best and Cleanest Bird Seed	54c
10c Empty Capsules, any size	64c
50c Thimble, 500 in box	84c
15c Fine Writing Paper, all shades, per box	10c
15c Whitmore's Large Paste, per box	74c
50c Nipples, best made, 2c, 3 for 5c	5c
10c Diamond Dyes, all colors	64c
10c Box Mustard	4c
10c Toilet Very Best Peppermint, Sweet Oil, Spirits of Nitro and Vanilla (extra special)	24c
50c Persian Insect Powder, one pound	29c
15c Pediment Roach Food	11c
50c Plumb	35c
25c Toilet Paper, per package	14c
10c Moth Balls, pound	4c
25c Camphor Plank, best for moth and packing, pound	8c
25c Dead Stick	17c
25c Best Powdered Borax, pound	94c
15c Bottle Vanilla, Turpentine, Sweet Oil, Castor Oil and Peppermint	4c

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U. S. OFFICER IN CHARGE

Fork Union Academy Cadets to Have a Regular Army Instructor.

WITH OFFICER COMES GUNS

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FORK UNION, VA., April 23.—A breeze of pleasurable excitement prevails just now among the friends of Fork Union Academy. As some one facetiously remarked, the students of that young and aspiring school are in a high state of jubilation. The explanation of this rich flow of enthusiasm appears in the fact that news has just come from the War Department that the order has been issued for the detail of an officer of the army to take charge of the military department of the Fork Union Academy.

The authorities of that institution, who have adopted the military feature at the beginning of the session of 1903-4, with the view that, if after a fair experiment, it worked satisfactorily, of applying to the national government for the detail of an army officer to assume control of the military department. The first session convinced the trustees and faculty that there were many possibilities of advantage and power in the arrangement.

Several months ago Dr. Hatcher, president of the board of trustees, visited the War Department in Washington, accompanied by Senator Thomas S. Martin, and entered formal application for the detail of an instructor in military science for the academy. It was understood that while the War Department had guns and other equipments for sale, no grant of any part of the equipment could be made for use in schools until an army officer had been assigned as an instructor to the academy. The appointment of this officer belongs to the office of the adjutant-general's office, and to that officer Dr. Hatcher took his application.

The regulations of the army require that before an officer can be detailed for service in any school, a military inspector is required to visit the said school with a view of ascertaining whether its conditions will justify the detail.

MR. INSPECTOR.
Captain William Chamberlaine, of the artillery corps at Fortress Monroe, was selected to make the inspection, his appointment for that purpose being made by the commander of the eastern division of the United States army, with headquarters on Long Island. Captain Chamberlaine visited Fork Union on Easter Monday, and while he proved to be a most polite and attractive gentleman, he was unsparingly faithful in making his investigation.

He took ample time and looked rigidly into every point involved; examined the charter, records and catalogue of the academy; informed himself thoroughly as to its course of instruction; satisfied himself that the accommodations of the school were sufficient for at least one hundred and fifty male students during next year; that the battalion could guarantee at least one hundred cadets; that the line over fifteen years of age; that the class standing in military instruction was to be associated with the academic class standing in determining the final standing of the students; that the academy authorities were cordially sympathetic with the military feature; that the school would give bond for the safety of equipments committed to its charge, with payment for such pieces as may be injured or destroyed, and that the corporation would accord to the officer in charge the most cordial support.

Captain Chamberlaine reported favorably to the department at Washington, testifying that the academy measured up to the required conditions, and suggesting that it was entitled, under the regulations, to the detail.

THE INSPECTING PROCEDURE.
The manner of selecting these officers for detail is probably not generally understood. They are usually selected from the retired officers of the army who desire to be detailed for duty in schools. It is left to the school to choose the man from the furnished list, and upon being chosen he applies to the department for assignment. We believe that the retired officer gets only two-thirds of the pay of those in active service, but when assigned to duty he is advanced to full pay.

It is also worthy of mention that

much of the work of the military instructor is done in the class room. During these seasons of weather when it is impossible to have outdoor drills and parades, class instructions are given.

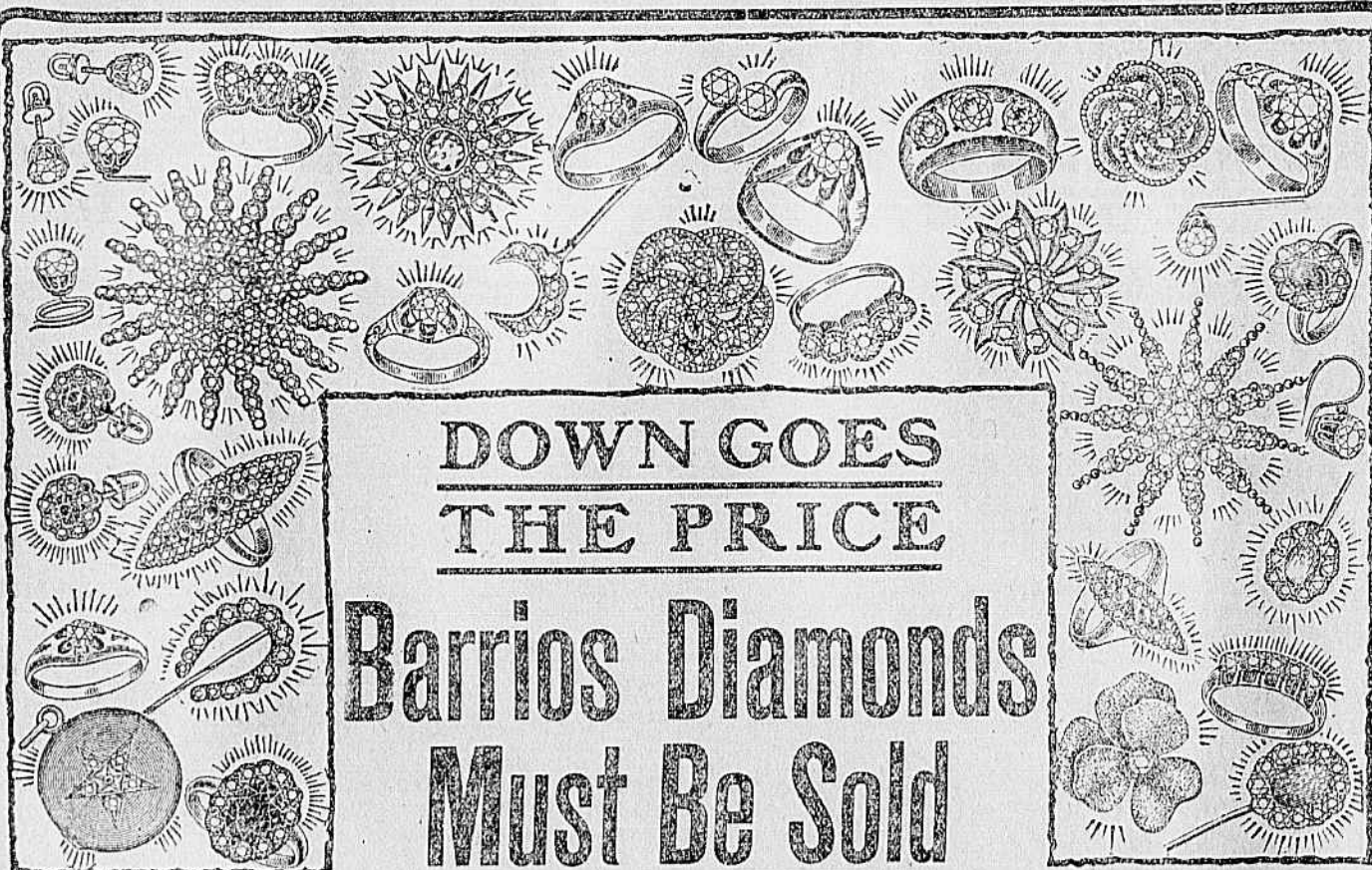
One required phase of exercise especially attractive to cadets is the target practice, which requires a secluded location and a range of at least five hundred yards, the ammunition for this purpose being furnished by the government. The detail of the officer in the case of Fork Union Academy goes into effect on September 23d next, which is the opening day for next session. The officer is required to live within easy reach of the school, and also to wear uniform whenever on duty. Since the establishment of the military department at Fork Union, Professor L. H. Walton has been in charge. The cadets have been sufficient in number to make two good sized companies, and these have been organized into a battalion with Professor Walton in rank of major, in command.

SMART DRILLS.
When Captain Chamberlaine inspected the school lately, he spoke most favorably of the drill which he witnessed and

which he declared showed that much hard and intelligent work had been expended upon the training. Major Walton is a young man of high character, a graduate of Richmond College, a master of military tactics and efficient as a disciplinarian.

It is hoped that he will continue his connection with the academy next session.

Dr. Hatcher, in speaking of the good fortune of the academy in securing the detail of the officer, which carries with it the assignment of the guns and other munitions, said that while grateful to many friends for courtesies in the effort to secure these things for the school, he felt under peculiar obligations to Senator Martin. He added that by especial attentions, extended to him, while in Washington, by extensive correspondence, and the most careful looking after details, the senator deserved the thanks of all the friends of the academy. It is announced that the Fork Union cadets, attended by the faculty, trustees and other friends, will come to Richmond Friday, April 23d. They are to have an informal reception at Richmond College.



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\$25 ones	25c for China Matting that usually sells for 35c.	\$36.00 ones, \$29.98
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\$22 ones		\$10 ones for \$5.00
\$30 ones		\$12 ones for \$6.00

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